(a) whether to boost production and exploration of oil, Government has decided to monetize several marginal oilfields of the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Directorate General of Hydrocarbon (DGH) has proposed a realistic evaluation of the oil reserves in the marginal fields; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the ONGC to boost exploration and production of oil from the marginal fields?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) has identified to monetize 165 new & marginal fields of which 43 fields have already been monetized by ONGC. Some fields are being monetized by ONGC itself or through Service Contract. The remaining marginal fields will be monetized by ONGC on commercial consideration keeping in view economic feasibility.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The strategy to develop marginal fields depends entirely on economic viability considering the basic limited hydrocarbon reserves available in these fields. However, ONGC has made in house efforts through cluster development in offshore and using minimum required facilities in onland for achieving economic viability. Some fields are being developed through service contract by ONGC.

Dual pricing policy of petroleum

794. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to enforce dual pricing policy in case of diesel and natural gas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is total consumption of natural gas and diesel in industrial, automobile and for domestic use separately; and

(d) how Government propose to allocate diesel and gas separately for different sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) At present there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to enforce dual pricing policy for Diesel.

The price of Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) Gas is decided by the Government. The price of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), imported under term contracts is governed by the Sale Purchase Agreement (SPA) between the LNG seller and the buyer, while spot cargoes are purchased on mutually agreeable commercial terms. As regards domestically produced Gas from Joint Venture (JV) fields, its pricing is governed in terms of the provisions of Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs). The price of Gas produced from fields under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) is approved by the Government under the provisions of the PSC signed between the Government and the NELP Operators.

(c) and (d) Total consumption of Diesel during 2007-08 was 47.669 millon tonnes, of which over 78% of Diesel was sold through retail outlets. Broadly, sector-wise consumption of Diesel sold through retail outlets is as under:

Agriculture	13.80%
Power Generation (Gensets)	9.70%
Passenger vehicles	18.90%
Commercial vehicles	50.40%
Industry	7.20%

There is no allocation of Diesel for any particular sector.

The total consumption of natural gas in the country is about 102.68 MMSCMD of which the breakup among sectors is around:

		Million standard cubic meter per day (mmscmd)
Automobile	:	3.56
Domestic	:	0.47
Industrial	:	98.65

It has been decided that out of the first 40 mmscmd natural gas to be produced from RIL's KG-D6 field, supply would be made to the following sectors:-

(i) Existing gas based urea plants, so as to enable them full capacity utilization;

(ii) Existing gas based LPG plants (3 mmscmd);

(iii) Power Plants lying idle/under-utilized and likely to be commissioned during 2008-09 and existing liquid fuel plants (upto 18 mmscmd);

(iv) City Gas Distribution Projects (upto 5 mmscmd);

(v) Additional gas to gas based power plants.

Allotment of agencies of petro-products

†795.SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) The Details of the procedure for allotment of agencies to the distributors of petroleum and gas products;

(b) the percentage of general and reserved quota in allotment;

(c) the general criteria for the selection of distributors; and

(d) the details of the number of incidents in the last six months in which norms have been in violated and the action taken in this regard, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) After dismantling of Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) *w.e.f.* 1.04.2002, Based on the broad policy guidelines issued by the Ministry, public sector oil marketing

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.